COUNTY PROFILE

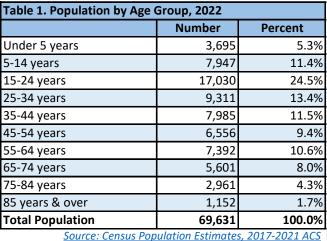
Blue Earth Co.

Blue Earth Co. is a part of Economic Development Region 9, which is located in the Southwest Planning Region.

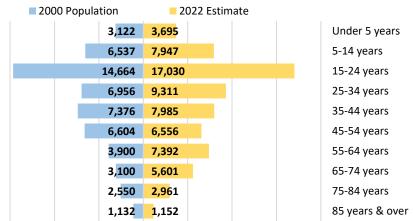
POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS



Blue Earth Co. is the 13th largest of the 87 counties in the state. Its population increased over the past decade, ranking as the 16th fastest growing in the state from 2010 to 2022. Blue Earth Co.'s population has a younger median age than the state and a smaller percentage of people aged 65 years and older. The population is aging, especially as the Baby Boom generation moves through the population pyramid (see Figure 1).







Blue Earth Co. enjoyed a natural increase - more births than deaths from 2020 to 2022, but also experienced net in-migration - meaning more people moved in than moved out. Despite suffering domestic out-migration, Blue Earth Co. welcomed net international in-migration - gaining new Minnesotans from foreign countries (see Table 2).

Table 2. Cumulative Estimates of the Components of Population Change, 2020-2022								
	Total		April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2022					
	Population	Natural	Vital Events		Net Migration			
	Change	Increase	Births	Deaths	Total	International	Domestic	
Blue Earth Co.	502	315	1,591	1,276	159	315	-156	
State of Minnesota	10,680	26,917	144,350	117,433	-17,365	20,012	-37,377	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

Compared to the state, Blue Earth Co. has a smaller percentage of foreign-born residents. From 2010 to 2021, Blue Earth Co. saw an increase in the number of foreign-born residents, which was faster than the statewide increase.

Table 3. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born	Blue Earth Co.		Change 2	010-2021	Minnesota		
Population, 2021	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent	Change	
Foreign-born Population	3,893	5.7%	1,389	55.5%	8.5%	30.6%	
Europe	345	8.9%	15	4.5%	9.4%	0.3%	
Asia	1,490	38.3%	415	38.6%	37.0%	30.2%	
Africa	1,410	36.2%	731	107.7%	27.8%	89.8%	
Oceania	4	0.1%	-8	-66.7%	0.4%	17.8%	
Americas:	644	16.5%	236	57.8%	25.4%	6.8%	
Latin America	<i>579</i>	14.9%	243	72.3%	23.0%	8.5%	
Northern America	65	1.7%	-7	-9.7%	2.5%	-6.7%	

Figure 2. Place of Birth for the Foreign Born Population, 2021



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey

Blue Earth Co.'s population was becoming more racially diverse over time. Since 2011, the county's white population increased and the number of people of other races increased (see Table 4).

Figure 3. Population by Race, 2021



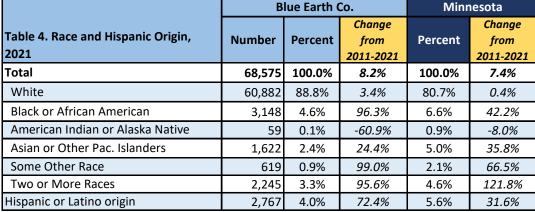
Black or African American

American Indian

Asian

Some Other Race

Two or More Races



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey

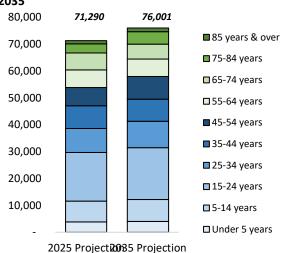
POPULATION PROJECTIONS

According to the Minnesota State Demographic Center, Blue Earth Co.'s population is expected to grow from 2025 to 2035, with a rate of change that is faster than the projected statewide growth rate (4.5%). In addition to the overall growth, the number of people aged 65 years and older is expected to increase over the next decade (see Figure 4 and Table 5).

88.8%

Table 5. Population Projections by Age Group, 2025-2035								
	2025	2035	Numeric	Percent				
Blue Earth Co.	Projection	Projection	Change	Change				
Under 5 years	3,827	4,026	199	5.2%				
5-14 years	7,762	8,173	411	5.3%				
15-24 years	18,068	19,264	1,196	6.6%				
25-34 years	8,947	9,825	878	9.8%				
35-44 years	8,462	8,201	-261	-3.1%				
45-54 years	6,788	8,437	1,649	24.3%				
55-64 years	6,523	6,513	-10	-0.2%				
65-74 years	6,333	5,520	-813	-12.8%				
75-84 years	3,393	4,638	1,245	36.7%				
85 years & over	1,187	1,404	217	18.3%				
Total Population	71,290	76,001	4,711	6.6%				

Figure 4. Projections by Age Group, 2025-



Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Blue Earth Co. has a higher percentage of adults (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma than the state (92.8%), and a higher percentage of people with at least some college experience. Blue Earth Co. also has a higher percentage of people with an Associate's degree and a lower percentage of people with a Bachelor's degree or higher.

71.2%

Percentage of the adult population (18 years & over) with at least a high school diploma:

95.2%

9% 24% 20% 12% 30%

Figure 5. Educational Attainment, 2021

☐ Less than high school

☐ High school graduate (incl. equiv.)

■ Some college, no degree

Associate's degree

■ Bachelor's degree

■ Advanced degree

state: 68.0%

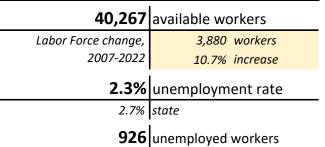
College-educated:

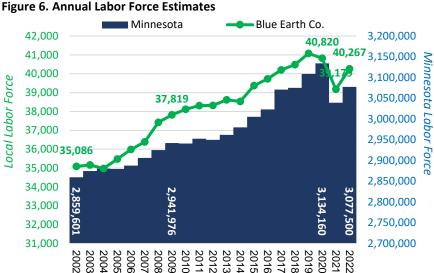
Associate's Degree: 12.0% Bachelor's Dearee: 19.7% Advanced Degree: 9.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

At 2.3%, Blue Earth Co. had a lower unemployment rate than the state in 2022. After the pandemic recession Blue Earth Co.'s unemployment rate decreased compared to 5.5% in 2020, and declined compared to the 2.9% prepandemic rate posted in 2019. The number of unemployed workers actively seeking work in Blue Earth Co. declined over the past year, and is down compared to 2019.





Source: DEED Local Area Unemployment Statistics

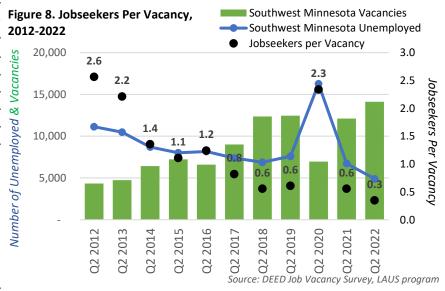
Labor force growth has slowed in recent years. After experiencing a net gain of 406.7 workers each year from 1990 to 2000, Blue Earth Co. averaged an annual gain of 418.4 new workers from 2000 to 2010, and most recently a gain of 270.6 new workers since 2010 (see Figure 7). Moving forward, Blue Earth Co. is expected to add workers from 2025 to 2035 (see Table 6).

Figure 7. Annual Change in Labor Force, 1990-2022 1,500 Average of 407 Average of 418 Average of 271 1.088 new workers per year new workers per year new workers per year Year-Over-Year Change in Available Workers 1.000 500 Λ -500 -1,000-1,500 -1,641 -2,000 2019-2021@2018-20118-20118-20117-20118-20117-20118-2 2020-202 (LAS) 2002-2003 2007-2008 2009-201ക് 2010-2011 1990-199 1991-1992 1992-1993 1993-199 1994-1995 1997-1998 1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001 2001-2002 2003-2004 2004-2005 2005-2006 2006-2007 2008-2009 2011-201 1995-1996 1996-1997

Table 6. Labor Force	Labor Force Projection			
Projections, 2025-2035	2025	2035		
16 to 24 years	12,389	13,429		
25 to 54 years	21,586	23,562		
55 to 64 years	4,926	4,918		
65 years & over	2,164	2,007		
Total Labor Force	41,065	43,916		

Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center, 2017-2021 ACS

The labor market had grown extremely tight in recent years, with less than 1 jobseeker per vacancy until the pandemic recession intervened in early 2020 and the number of unemployed workers spiked. Job vacancies in Southwest reached new highs in the 4th quarter of 2021, quickly bringing back challenges in finding new workers and 2022 showed the lowest jobseeker-per-vacancy ratio on record (see Figure 8).



LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

Blue Earth Co. had a higher labor force participation rate than the state. The labor force in Blue Earth Co. is less racially diverse than the state (where 82.6% of workers are white alone), but is becoming more diverse over time.

Table 7. Employment Characteristics, 2	2021						
	Blu	e Earth Co.		Minne	esota	Labor Force by Gender	
	In Labor Force (available workers)	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force Partic. Rate	Unemp. Rate	Male	Female
Total Labor Force	40,188	71.3%	3.4%	69.2%	4.0%	20,795	19,417
16 to 19 years	3,364	61.0%	7.0%	52.3%	10.7%	1,507	1,855
20 to 24 years	8,505	80.9%	3.6%	83.3%	6.7%	4,120	4,389
25 to 44 years	15,409	90.5%	3.7%	88.8%	3.6%	8,338	7,065
45 to 54 years	5,553	86.0%	1.9%	87.6%	3.0%	2,917	2,633
55 to 64 years	5,497	75.5%	1.9%	73.1%	3.2%	2,736	2,760
65 to 74 years	1,649	29.9%	1.2%	28.0%	3.2%	1,015	636
75 years & over	239	5.9%	7.1%	6.6%	2.9%	162	79
Employment Characteristics by Race &	Hispanic Origin					Figure 9. L	abor Force by
White alone	36,138	71.2%	3.1%	68.5%	3.4%	Race, 2021	
Black or African American	1,585	68.4%	5.1%	71.9%	8.6%		
American Indian & Alaska Native	54	91.5%	0.0%	57.4%	12.9%		
Asian or Other Pac. Islanders	1,017	68.4%	10.9%	72.7%	4.1%		
Some Other Race	496	91.0%	1.6%	75.8%	6.2%		
Two or More Races	926	77.1%	4.8%	74.1%	7.3%		N N
Hispanic or Latino	1,720	86.2%	8.0%	77.0%	6.6%		
Employment Characteristics by Disabil	ity						
With Any Disability	1,920	56.8%	12.9%	53.6%	9.9%		89.9
Employment Characteristics by Educat	ional Attainment						
Population, 25 to 64 years	26,463	86.0%	2.9%	84.4%	3.4%	White a	
Less than H.S. Diploma	902	64.4%	2.4%	66.6%	4.6%		African American
H.S. Diploma or Equivalent	5,507	80.9%	0.9%	77.3%	2.5%		n Indian & Alaska
Some College or Assoc. Degree	9,706	87.5%	4.0%	85.1%	3.6%		Other Pac. Islande
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	10,336	90.1%	2.0%	90.3%	2.1%	Some O	ther Race

Source: 2017-2021 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

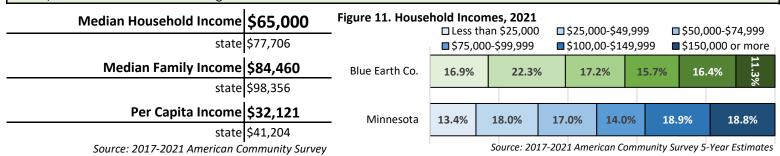
A larger percentage of workers in Blue Earth Co. worked in the same county in which they live compared to the state. Blue Earth Co. also had a shorter average commute time than the state.

	Blue Eart	h Co.	Minn	esota	Figure 10. Time Leaving Home to			
Table 8. Commuting Characteristics, 2021	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	go to Work, 20			
Worked in state of residence	37,247	99.7%	2,858,636	97.7%	■ Blue Ea		■ Minnesota 20%	a 40%
Worked in county of residence	28,281	75.7%	1,922,337	65.7%	U	% Z	20%	40%
Worked out of county of residence	9,004	24.1%	933,372	31.9%	12:00 a.m. to			
Worked outside state of residence	112	0.3%	67,296	2.3%	4:59 a.m.	4.6% 4.6%		
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK						4.070		
Car, truck, or van	32,465	86.9%	2,387,561	81.6%	5:00 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.	8.5%		
Public transportation (excl. taxicab)	598	1.6%	81,926	2.8%	a.m.	9.1%		
Other method (walk, bike, taxi, etc.)	1,308	3.5%	122,889	4.2%	6:00 a.m. to 6:59		15.5%	
Worked at home	2,951	7.9%	333,556	11.4%	a.m.		19.4%	
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK					7:00 a.m. to 7:59			
Less than 10 minutes	8,555	22.9%	465,223	15.9%	a.m.		29.0	3.1%
10 to 19 minutes	17,633	47.2%	895,335	30.6%			29.0	/0
20 to 29 minutes	5,380	14.4%	649,557	22.2%	8:00 a.m. to 8:59	12	.7%	
30 to 44 minutes	3,400	9.1%	567,631	19.4%	a.m.	1	4.5%	
45 to 59 minutes	971	2.6%	190,186	6.5%	9:00 a.m. to		35.60/	
60 or more minutes	1,382	3.7%	158,000	5.4%	11:59 p.m.		25.6% 23.3%	
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	17.8	minutes	23.5	minutes				- 1

INCOMES, COST OF LIVING, & HOUSING

\$16.02 for a typical family with 2 adults and 1 child (see Table 9).

Blue Earth Co. had a lower median household income than the state, and a higher percentage of households with incomes below \$50,000. Overall, Blue Earth Co. had the 39th highest median household income of the 87 counties in the state.



The cost of living has increased over the past 2 years with costs up in many areas. Blue Earth Co. had a lower cost of living than the state, with a required hourly wage of \$14.17 for a single person living alone to meet a basic needs cost of living, and an hourly wage requirement of

Table 9. Basic Needs Cost of Living Estimates, 2022 **Monthly Costs** Single Yearly **Hourly Wage** Single Adult, 0 children Health Trans-**Cost of Living** Required **Child Care** Food Housing Other **Taxes** Care portation Blue Earth Co. \$29,483 \$14.17 \$0 \$352 \$152 \$743 \$597 \$300 \$313 State of Minnesota \$33,708 \$16.21 \$0 \$359 \$157 \$903 \$663 \$345 \$382 Typical Family: 2 Adults (1 **Monthly Costs** Family Yearly **Hourly Wage** working full-time, 1 part-Health Trans-**Child Care** Housing **Cost of Living** Required **Food** Other **Taxes** time). 1 child Care portation Blue Earth Co. \$49,975 \$16.02 \$260 \$804 \$491 \$538 \$990 \$689 \$393 State of Minnesota \$60,540 \$19.40 \$579 \$822 \$561 \$772 \$540 \$620 \$1,151

Source: DEED Cost of Living tool

Blue Earth Co. had a lower median house value than the state, having the 27th highest value of the 87 counties in 2021. Blue Earth Co.'s housing stock was newer than the state's, with a higher percentage of units built since 2000 (see Figure 12).

Table 10. Estimated Value of Owner-	Blue Eart	Minnesota	
occupied Housing Units, 2021	Total	Percent	Percent
Total	16,737	100.0%	100.0%
Less than \$50,000	1,170	7.0%	4.3%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	964	5.8%	6.1%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	2,281	13.6%	9.5%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	3,777	22.6%	14.8%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	4,824	28.8%	28.7%
\$300,000 to \$499,999	2,728	16.3%	26.4%
\$500,000 or more	993	5.9%	10.2%
Median (dollars)	\$203,2	200	\$250,200

Source: 2017-2021 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

Figure 12. Year Structure Built, 2021 0% 20% 30% Blue Earth Co. ■ Minnesota 10.5% 2010 or later 6.7% 15.2% 2000 to 2009 1980 to 1999 25.7% 21.2% 1960 to 1979 24.1% 13.1% 1940 to 1959 14.1% 20.3% 1939 or earlier 15.9%

Figure 13. Housing Costs as a

Percentage of Income, 2021

Median monthly owner costs, owner-occupied units with a mortgage \$1,43

Percentage of households with a mortgage spending 30% or more of their income on housing costs

state 21.7%

Median monthly rent costs \$954

Percentage of renters spending 30% or more of their household income on rent

49.2%

state 45.4%

State 145.4%

mortgage 15.6% rent 7.0% 25.2% 40.1% 51.1% 9.8% 12.8% 9.1%12.0% 16.5% Less than 20% 20% to 24.9% 25.0% to 29.9% 30.0% to 34.9% ■ 35% or more

Source: 2017-2021 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates

OCCUPATIONS

At \$22.61 in 2023, wages were lower in Region 9 than the state. Overall, Region 9 had the 5th highest median hourly wage level of the 13 economic development regions in the state. Wages were highest for management occupations (\$45.43) and lowest for food preparation and serving related jobs (\$14.54) (see Table 11).

Table 11. Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, 2023								
		Region 9 State of Minnesota			sota			
Occupational Group	Median Hourly Wage	Estimated Regional Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	Regional Location Quotient	Median Hourly Wage	State-wide Jobs	Share of Total Jobs	
Total, All Occupations	\$22.61	99,520	100.0%	1.0	\$24.25	2,827,310	100.0%	
Management	\$45.43	5,560	5.6%	0.8	\$51.58	193,760	6.9%	
Business & Financial Operations	\$31.55	4,010	4.0%	0.6	\$38.19	201,940		
Computer & Mathematical	\$37.11	1,170	1.2%	0.3	\$49.73	99,250	3.5%	
Architecture & Engineering	\$37.38	1,530	1.5%	0.8	\$40.60	53,100	1.9%	
Life, Physical & Social Science	\$31.23	820	0.8%	0.8	\$39.37	29,070	1.0%	
Community & Social Service	\$25.09	2,520	2.5%	1.3	\$25.82	54,820	1.9%	
Legal	\$33.36	380	0.4%	0.6	\$47.87	18,730	0.7%	
Education, Training & Library	\$28.27	6,560	6.6%	1.2	\$24.82	158,830	5.6%	
Arts, Design, Entertainment & Media	\$23.49	1,110	1.1%	0.8	\$28.80	37,630	1.3%	
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	\$37.27	5,550	5.6%	0.8	\$41.07	186,700	6.6%	
Healthcare Support	\$15.81	5,840	5.9%	1.0	\$17.40	162,400	5.7%	
Protective Service	\$26.80	1,270	1.3%	0.9	\$25.83	40,620	1.4%	
Food Preparation & Serving Related	\$14.54	8,730	8.8%	1.1	\$14.89	216,970	7.7%	
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	\$17.87	2,760	2.8%	1.0	\$18.26	76,210	2.7%	
Personal Care & Service	\$15.07	2,030	2.0%	1.0	\$16.96	58,120	2.1%	
Sales & Related	\$15.30	8,840	8.9%	1.0	\$18.14	239,500	8.5%	
Office & Administrative Support	\$20.41	11,430	11.5%	0.9	\$23.06	345,830	12.2%	
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	\$18.84	290	0.3%	2.0	\$19.84	4,060	0.1%	
Construction & Extraction	\$27.63	4,130	4.1%	1.0	\$31.00	113,930	4.0%	
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$24.77	4,590	4.6%	1.3	\$27.95	98,670	3.5%	
Production	\$19.91	11,040	11.1%	1.5	\$22.07	209,380	7.4%	
Transportation & Material Moving	\$19.57	9,370	9.4%	1.2	\$19.80	227,780	8.1%	

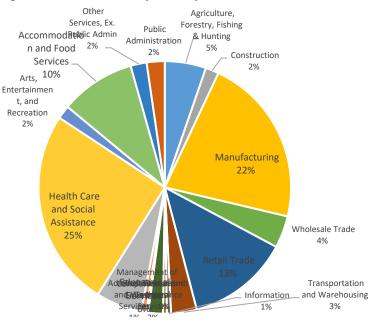
Source: DEED Occupational Employment & Wage Statistics, Qtr. 1 2023

JOB VACANCY SURVEY

Blue Earth Co. is a part of the Southwest planning region. There were 14128 job vacancies posted by employers in 2022, indicating extensive opportunity in the region, with openings across several occupations and industries (see Figure 14).

Table 12. Southwest Job Vacancy Survey Results, 2022						
	Number of					
Occupational Group	Vacancies	Wage Offer				
Total, All Occupations	14,128	\$16.55				
Management	430					
Business & Financial Operations	151					
Computer & Mathematical	99					
Architecture & Engineering	130					
Life, Physical & Social Sciences	69	\$20.91				
Community & Social Service	159	•				
Education, Training & Library	731	7-11-0				
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,252	\$25.17				
Healthcare Support	1,290	\$14.92				
Protective Service	142	\$19.76				
Food Preparation & Serving Related	2,626	\$13.56				
Building, Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	379	\$15.50				
Personal Care & Service	135	\$12.78				
Sales & Related	1,467	\$14.33				
Office & Administrative Support	766	\$14.07				
Construction & Extraction	165	\$17.90				
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	554	\$22.90				
Production	1,782	\$18.26				
Transportation & Material Moving	786	\$17.46				

Figure 14. Job Vacancies by Industry, 2022



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, 2022

OCCUPATIONS IN DEMAND

Table 13. Southwest Occupations in Demand, 2022						
Less than High School	High School or Equivalent	Some College or Assoc. Deg.	Bachelor's Degree or Higher			
Home Health and Personal	Nursing Assistants	Degistered Nurses	Elementary School Teachers,			
Care Aides	Nursing Assistants	Registered Nurses	Except Special Education			
\$30,145/yr	\$33,957/yr	\$76,734/yr	\$53,146/yr			
Retail Salespersons	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational	Clinical Laboratory Technologists	General and Operations Managers			
Retail Salespersons	Nurses	and Technicians	General and Operations Managers			
\$28,932/yr	\$48,351/yr	\$55,177/yr	\$79,034/yr			
Cashiers	Medical Assistants	Police and Sheriff?s Patrol	Secondary School Teachers, Except			
Casillers	Wedical Assistants	Officers	Special and Career/Technical			
\$25,982/yr	\$41,596/yr	\$59,965/yr	\$57,121/yr			
Fast Food and Counter	Automotive Service Technicians and	Magnetic Resonance Imaging	Accountants and Auditors			
Workers	Mechanics	Technologists	Accountants and Additors			
\$24,598/yr	\$37,127/yr	\$79,803/yr	\$64,075/yr			
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	Electricians	Industrial Engineering	Substance abuse, behavioral			
Truck Drivers		Technologists and Technicians	disorder, and mental health			
\$45,543/yr	\$57,423/yr	\$51,741/yr	\$51,967/yr			
First-Line Supervisors of	Heating, Air Conditioning, and	Surgical Technologists	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term			
Retail Sales Workers	Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers					
\$43,858/yr	\$49,409/yr	\$57,436/yr	\$35,428/yr			
Waiters and Waitresses	Machinists	Radiologic Technologists and	Project Management Specialists			
		Technicians	and Business Operations			
\$25,523/yr	\$48,003/yr	\$65,570/yr	\$60,798/yr			
Stockers and Order Fillers	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	Veterinary Technologists and	Pharmacists			
	·	Technicians				
\$30,099/yr	\$52,667/yr	\$37,547/yr	\$134,918/yr			
Customer Service	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and	Electrical and Electronic	Middle School Teachers, Except			
Representatives	Cosmetologists	Engineering Technologists and	Special and Career/Technical			
\$37,334/yr	\$29,742/yr	\$58,234/yr	\$60,938/yr			
Teaching Assistants, Except		Forest and Conservation	Sales Representatives, Wholesale			
Postsecondary	Paramedics	Technicians	and Manufacturing, Technical and			
\$29,982/yr	\$36,614/yr	\$47,186/yr	\$54,030/yr			

Source: DEED Occupations in Demand

Blue Earth Co. is a part of the Southwest planning region, which is projected to see a 3.9% increase in employment levels over the next decade. In addition to new jobs created, there will be a much larger number of exit openings (see Figure 15).

Table 14. Regional Industry Employment Projections, 2020-2030						
Southwest Planning Region	Estimated Employment 2020	Projected Employ- ment 2030	Percent Change 2020-2030			
Total, All Industries	195,812	203,504	3.9%			
Natural Resources & Mining	5,931	6,026	1.6%			
Utilities	713	735	3.1%			
Construction	7,573	8,082	6.7%			
Manufacturing	30,107	30,719	2.0%			
Wholesale Trade	8,045	8,118	0.9%			
Retail Trade	18,569	17,653	-4.9%			
Transportation & Warehousing	7,385	7,817	5.8%			
Information	2,152	2,001	-7.0%			
Finance & Insurance, Real Estate	8,098	8,232	1.7%			
Professional Services & Mgmt. of Compani	5,283	5,512	4.3%			
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt.	3,421	3,636	6.3%			
Educational Services	15,564	16,274	4.6%			
Health Care & Social Assistance	29,352	32,081	9.3%			
Leisure & Hospitality	11,744	14,382	22.5%			
Other Services	6,756	7,462	10.4%			
Public Administration	13,193	13,517	2.5%			

Figure 15. Regional Occupational **Employment Projections, 2020-2030**

From employment gro	owth 000 (exit openi 10,000	ngs
-5,0	300 (3,000	10,000	13,000
Management Occupations	312	8,590		
Business and Financial	301	1 ,897		
Computer and	83	432		
Architecture and	174	682		
Life, Physical, and Social	111	533		
Community and Social	434	1 ,676		
Legal Occupations	47	194		
Educational Instruction and	855	4,608		
Arts, Design,	196	1 ,129		
Healthcare Practitioners	729	2,7 38		
Healthcare Support	1,322	7,049		
Protective Service	125	1,134		
Food Preparation and	2,02	9,744		
Building and Grounds	414	3,71 5		
Personal Care and Service	446	3,452		
Sales and Related	-83	9,573		
Office and Administrative	-999	10,245		
Farming, Fishing, and	63	1 ,651		
Construction and Extraction	433	2,623		
Installation, Maintenance,	515	2,6 60		
Production Occupations	-49	7,349		
Transportation and	986	7,521		

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

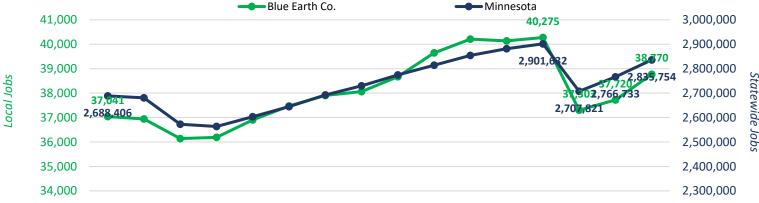
Coming out of the pandemic recession, after gaining jobs over the past year, Blue Earth Co. had the 12th largest economy of the 87 counties in the state. Blue Earth Co. was the 25th fastest growing in the past year and the 54th fastest growing since 2019. From 2019 to 2022, employment in Blue Earth Co. is still down from the pandemic recession.

2,113 business establishments \$53,500 annual average wage

38,770 jobs \$2,074,209,476 total industry payroll

Job change, 2019-2022 -3.7% decline

Figure 16. Industry Employment Statistics, 2007-2022

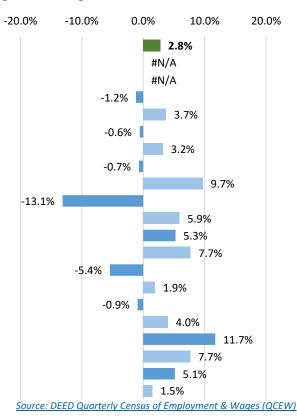


2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

Source: DEED QCEW program

			Average
Table 15. Blue Earth Co. Industry	Number of	Percent of	Annual
Employment Statistics, 2022	Jobs	Total Jobs	Wage
Total, All Industries	38,770	100.0%	\$53,500
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish & Hunt	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Mining	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Construction	1,865	4.8%	\$69,836
Manufacturing	4,234	10.9%	\$72,121
Utilities	179	0.5%	\$103,571
Wholesale Trade	1,062	2.7%	\$78,623
Retail Trade	5,498	14.2%	\$33,880
Transportation & Warehousing	1,607	4.1%	\$51,342
Information	523	1.3%	\$59,865
Finance & Insurance	1,184	3.1%	\$88,628
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	801	2.1%	\$37,815
Professional & Technical Services	1,158	3.0%	\$84,523
Management of Companies	157	0.4%	\$90,269
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	955	2.5%	\$40,441
Educational Services	3,688	9.5%	\$59,051
Health Care & Social Assistance	8,397	21.7%	\$59,002
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	515	1.3%	\$16,480
Accommodation & Food Services	3,811	9.8%	\$19,093
Other Services	1,410	3.6%	\$35,774
Public Administration	1,292	3.3%	\$66,120

Figure 17. Change in Jobs, 2021-2022



For more information on Blue Earth Co.'s population, labor force, and economic trends, contact:

web: www.mn.gov/deed/data/regional-lmi/

Data updated: May 30, 2023